

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A radio communication method of conducting data transmission and reception between a radio base station and a radio terminal by executing one or more processes, the radio communication method comprising the steps of:

executing processes in the radio base station depending upon a number of processes executed in the radio terminal, and transmitting/receiving data to/from the radio terminal;

10 monitoring in the radio base station for the occurrence of handover or for a possibility of occurrence of handover in the radio terminal; and

controlling the number of processes executed at the executing step according to a result of monitoring conducted at the monitoring step.

2. A radio base station for conducting data transmission and reception with a radio terminal, the radio base station comprising:

a process executer for executing processes depending upon a number of processes executed in the radio terminal, and transmitting/receiving data to/from the radio terminal;

a handover monitor for monitoring for the occurrence of handover or for a possibility of occurrence of handover in the radio terminal; and

25 a process number controller for controlling the number of processes executed by the process executer according to a result of monitoring conducted by the handover monitor.

3. The radio base station according to claim 2, wherein the handover monitor detects a possibility of occurrence of handover on the basis of an error rate in radio communication between the radio base station and the radio terminal.

5 4. The radio base station according to claim 2, wherein the handover monitor detects a possibility of occurrence of handover on the basis of a distance between the radio base station and the radio terminal.

5. The radio base station according to claim to 2, wherein
10 the process number controller comprises a threshold table in which an index value indicating the occurrence of handover or a possibility of its occurrence is associated with a threshold in the number of processes that can be executed, and

the process number controller collates a result of
15 monitoring conducted by the handover monitor with the threshold table, and controls the number of processes that can be executed, on the basis of a result of the collation.

6. The radio base station according to claim 2, wherein
the process executer comprises a retransmission process
20 detector for detecting a process that is conducting data retransmission, and

if a process that is conducting data retransmission is detected, the process executer conducts data transmission and reception by preferentially using the process that is conducting
25 the data retransmission.

7. A radio terminal for conducting data transmission and reception with a radio base station by executing one or more

processes, the radio terminal comprising:

a handover monitor for monitoring for the occurrence of handover or for a possibility of occurrence of handover in the radio terminal;

5 a handover requester for transmitting handover requesting information to the radio base station according to a result of the monitoring conducted by the handover monitor; and

a process executer for conducting data transmission and reception by using the number of processes that can be executed
10 and determined by the radio base station.

8. The radio terminal according to claim 7, wherein the handover monitor detects a possibility of occurrence of handover on the basis of an error rate in radio communication between the radio base station and the radio terminal.

15 9. The radio terminal according to claim 7, wherein the handover monitor detects a possibility of occurrence of handover on the basis of a distance between the radio base station and the radio terminal.